This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a content metadata crawler configured to search metadata related to aggregated content from a plurality of media sources and to produce a metadata list based on the search, wherein the metadata list comprises a plurality of metadata elements;

a suggestion keyword indexer coupled to the content metadata crawler, wherein the suggestion keyword indexer is configured to receive the metadata list and index the metadata elements;

a suggestion database coupled to the suggestion keyword indexer and configured to store the indexed metadata elements; and

a suggestion database processor coupled to the content metadata crawler, the suggestion keyword indexer and the suggestion database, wherein the suggestion database processor is configured to receive ~~search the suggestion database, based on~~ one or more search request criteria, to produce a list of keywords, ~~and~~ to modify the one or more search request criteria with the produced list of keywords, and to initiate a search of the suggestion database using the modified one or more search request criteria in response to receiving the one or more search request criteria.

2.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein each metadata element comprises one or more metadata fields, and wherein the suggestion keyword indexer comprises:

an extraction module configured to extract and cache a value of each metadata field;

a parsing module coupled to the extraction module and configured to parse contents of uniquely identifying metadata fields, wherein the contents of a uniquely identifying field comprise one or more word items;

a classifying module coupled to the parsing module and configured to classify one or more of the one or more word items;

a comparison module coupled to the classifying module and configured to compare one or more of the one or more word items to determine a list of related terms; and

an index matrix record builder configured to create and augment an index matrix record for each of the classified word items.

3.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising one or more of a dictionary database, a thesaurus database and a lexicon database, wherein the comparison module is configured to compare a word item to entries in one or more of the dictionary database, the thesaurus database and the lexicon database, and wherein the list of related terms includes one or more of a dictionary definition, lexicon data, and one or more synonyms.

4.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the classifying module comprises one or more computational linguistics tools, including a rule-based part-of-speech tagging algorithm and a stochastic part-of-speech tagging algorithm, wherein the one or more computational linguistic tools are configured to determine part-of-speech data of a word item, and wherein the index matrix record builder is configured to add the part-of-speech data to the index matrix record for the word item.

5.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the uniquely identifying fields comprise one or more of content type, content title, date of production, rating and parental notice information, performer, artist, writer, author, plot summary, keyword list, and textual content description.

6.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the index matrix record builder comprises a vector assignment module that is configured to assign a word item vector value for a word item, wherein the word item vector value is a measure of similarity between a word item and a related term.

7.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the suggestion database processor comprises:

a vector determination module configured to assign a search term suggestion vector range to one or more of the search request criteria; and

a vector value comparator configured to compare a vector value of a search term and the word item vector value to determine if the word item vector value falls within the suggestion vector range of the search ~~item~~term, wherein word items that fall within the suggestion vector range are used to search for suggested content.

8.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the suggestion vector range is adjustable by a user of the apparatus.

9.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a user-defined filter, the user-defined filter comprising:

a user history filter;

a user profile filter; and

an approved content access filter,

wherein the suggestion database processor is configured to process search results from the suggestion database using the user-defined filter to produce the list of suggested content.

10.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a ranking module configured to rank content in the list of suggested content.

11.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the ranking module is configured to rank the content according to one or more of a user historical analysis report and similarities to previously accessed content by the user.

12-20. (Canceled).

21.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

first searching means for searching metadata related to the available aggregated content from the plurality of media sources and producing a metadata list, wherein the metadata list comprises a plurality of metadata elements;

means, coupled to the first searching means, for receiving the metadata list and indexing the metadata element;

means, coupled to the indexing means, for storing the indexed metadata elements; and

second searching means, coupled to the first searching means, for searching the storing means, the second searching means configured to receive ~~based on~~ one or more search request criteria, to produce a list of metadata elements, ~~and for~~ to modify~~ing~~ the one or more search request criteria with the produced list of metadata elements, and to search based on the modified one or more search request criteria in response to receiving the one or more search request criteria.

22.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 21, wherein each metadata element comprises one or more metadata fields, and wherein the indexing means comprises:

extraction means for extracting and caching a value of each metadata field;

parsing means coupled to the extraction means, for parsing contents of uniquely identifying metadata fields, wherein the contents of a uniquely identifying field comprise one or more word items;

classifying means, coupled to the parsing means, for classifying one or more of the one or more word items;

comparing means coupled to the classifying means for comparing one or more of the one or more word items to determine a list of related terms; and

means for creating and augmenting an index matrix record for each of the classified word items.

23.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising one or more of a dictionary database, a thesaurus database and a lexicon database, wherein the comparing means compares a word item to entries in one or more of the dictionary database, the thesaurus database

and the lexicon database, and wherein the list of related terms includes one or more of a dictionary definition, lexicon data, and one or more synonyms.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the classifying module comprises means for analyzing linguistics.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the means for analyzing linguistics comprises one or more computational linguistics tools, including a rule-based part-of-speech tagging algorithm and a stochastic part-of-speech tagging algorithm, wherein the one or more computational linguistic tools are configured to determine part-of-speech data of a word item, and wherein the means for creating and augmenting an index matrix record is further for adding the part-of-speech data to the index matrix record for the word item

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the uniquely identifying fields comprise one or more of content type, content title, date of production, rating and parental notice information, performer, artist, writer, author, plot summary, keyword list, and textual content description.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the means for creating and augmenting an index matrix record comprises means for assigning a word item vector value for a word item, wherein the word item vector value is a measure of similarity between a word item and a related term.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the second searching means comprises:

    means for assigning a search term suggestion vector range to one or more of the search request criteria; and

    means for comparing a vector value of a search term and the word item vector value to determine if the word item vector value falls within the suggestion vector range of the search term, wherein word items that fall within the suggestion vector range are used to search for suggested content.

29.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the suggestion vector range is adjustable by a user of the apparatus.

30.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising means for filtering search results.

31.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the means for filtering search results comprises:

a user history filter;

a user profile filter; and

an approved content access filter,

wherein the means for creating and augmenting an index matrix record is further for processing search results from the suggestion database using the user-defined filter to produce the list of suggested content.

32.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising means for ranking content in the list of suggested content.

33.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the ranking means is further for ranking the content according to one or more of a user historical analysis report and similarities to previously accessed content by the user.

34.   (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a search request processor configured to perform the search of the ~~metadata~~ suggestion database ~~based on~~ using the modified one or more search request criteria.

35.   (Cancelled)

36.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a computer system comprising a processor and a computer-readable medium, the computer being configured to:

generate a plurality of metadata elements based on metadata associated with a plurality of video content items;

receive a user search comprising a plurality of search request criteria;

generate a plurality of keywords based on the search request criteria and the metadata items;

modify the one or more search request criteria with the produced list of keywords; and

in response to receiving the user search, perform a search of the metadata based on the modified one or more search request criteria.

37.   (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the suggestion keyword indexer comprises:

a record builder configured to generate records that associate a suggestion keyword with a metadata element and a vector quantity that indicates a degree of similarity between the suggestion keyword and the metadata element; and

wherein the suggestion database processor comprises:

a comparator configured to compare the vector quantity associated with a suggestion keyword with a suggestion vector range, wherein the suggestion keywords whose vector quantities fall within the suggestion vector range are included in the produced list of keywords.

38.   (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the suggestion database processor is configured to modify the one or more search request criteria by appending the produced list of keywords to the received one or more search request criteria.